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Agenda item 144

CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES

France and Egypt: draft resolution

Convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that successful codification and progressive development of the rules of international law governing the non-navigational uses of international watercourses would assist in promoting and implementing the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking into account the existence of bilateral or multilateral agreements governing the non-navigational uses of international watercourses, which should not be affected by the adoption of a new international instrument unless the parties to those agreements have otherwise decided,

Also taking into account the fact that, despite the existence of a number of bilateral treaties and regional agreements, the use of international watercourses is still based in part on general principles and rules of customary law,

Recalling its resolution 49/52 of 9 December 1994, by which it decided that the Sixth Committee should convene, at the beginning of the fifty-first session, as a Working Group of the Whole to elaborate a framework convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses on the basis of the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission,

Noting that some progress was achieved in the elaboration of the convention but that the Working Group was unable to complete its task,

1. Decides that, at the earliest possible date during the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, the Sixth Committee shall convene a second session of the Working Group of the Whole for a period of at least two weeks to complete the elaboration of a framework convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses;

2. Also decides that the Working Group of the Whole shall continue its work, during its second session, building on the work already carried out by the Drafting Committee and the Working Group, as reflected in their reports, 1/ including the oral report of the President of the Drafting Committee; 2/

3. Further decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "Framework convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses".

1/ A/C.6/51/NUW/WG/L.1 and Corr.1 and 2, Add.1, Add.2, and Corr.1, Add.3 and Corr.1 and Add.4; and A/C.6/51/L.3.

2/ See A/C.6/51/SR.24.